

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/698,087 Confirmation No.: 1016  
Applicant : Robert S. Howland  
Filing Date : October 31, 2003  
Title : Multi Selective Axis Spinal Fixation System  
Group Art Unit : 3733  
Examiner : Eduardo C. Robert  
Docket No. : 703716.4001  
Customer No. : 34313

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT & RESPONSE TO FINAL REJECTION**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 12, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.